

EXPOSITION OF GENESIS

Message #15

Genesis 3:7-15 (24)

The LORD God created man and woman and put them in His wonderful garden. He gave them prestige, responsibility, provisions and blessings and gave them only one prohibition - 'do not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.' When Adam and Eve choose to disobey God and sin, they immediately suffered certain negative consequences.

WHEN A CHILD OF GOD CHOOSES TO DISOBEY AND SIN AGAINST GOD, THERE ARE TRAGIC CONSEQUENCES THAT WILL FOLLOW.

Any person who takes sin lightly is a fool.

CONSEQUENCE #1 - Disobedience to God's word brought shame. **3:7**

At the moment of sin, the intellect, the emotion and the will became soiled. There was a loss of pure innocence and man became as Dr. S. L. Johnson said, "a spoiled species."

It was not that the body of the male and female had changed, it was that their eyes saw it completely different. Man's eyes were opened but what he saw robbed him of his innocence. He could only see evil and not good.

After the sin, Adam and Eve felt dirty, they felt guilty, they felt ashamed. **No child of God will ever find happiness in disobedience, he will only find shame.**

CONSEQUENCE #2 - Disobedience to God's word brings fear. **3:8-13**

Not only were Adam and Eve ashamed of themselves because of their sin, but they immediately became afraid of the LORD God because of their sin.

It is evident that the LORD God verbally communicated with Adam and Eve and made His presence known to them in the "cool of the day." This could either refer to early morning or early evening. Regardless, this fear caused four foolish actions:

Action #1 - Fear caused both to hide from the LORD God. **3:8**

This hiding was motivated by their fear of God (**Genesis 3:10**). In all reality they had every right to be afraid because God had promised them the death penalty for disobedience (Genesis 2:17). But the fact is it is impossible to hide from God.

Action #2 - Fear caused Adam to try and deceive God. **3:9-10**

Verse 9 is a tremendous verse of grace. The first word that could have come from God legitimately could have been a word of severe judgment. This first question is designed to get Adam to admit his sin. God knows full well what happened, but He wants Adam to confess it to Him. The fact that He is speaking to Adam and not executing Adam is a remarkable demonstration of Grace.

Notice how Adam responds, not in an admission of sin, but an admission of nakedness. Adam is attempting to cover up the true reason for his fear. In verse 10, he says the reason why he was afraid of the LORD God and hid was because he realized he was naked, not because he had sinned against God. Adam is trying to dodge truth, not come clean, and not admit sin. He is trying to weasel his way out of the real truth.

The LORD God realized the sham of Adam so in verse 11, He asks Adam two questions which are not designed to gain information, but designed to gain admission and conviction.

Action #3 - Fear caused Adam to try and blame the woman and God. **3:12**

In **verse 12**, Adam is still playing the game of self-justification. First he attempts to pass the responsibility for his sin to his wife and then he attempts to blame God for His sin by saying the woman “whom you gave to be with me.”

His rationale is that if God had not allowed the circumstances to exist, such as giving him a woman, he would have never sinned. This is amazing grace that God puts up with this, He could have executed him right here and right now.

Action #4 - Fear caused the woman to blame the serpent. **3:13**

In some respects the Woman is a little more honest than Adam because she does not attempt to blame God, she blames the serpent. Adam passes the buck to the woman and to the LORD God and the woman passes the buck to the serpent. **Neither one falls down before God and admits they made their own choice.**

The Hebrew word “deceive” is one that means to cause to go astray, to seduce, to corrupt, to deceive. Paul does affirm that Eve was deceived by the serpent (II Corinthians 11:3); however she willingly made her own choice.

Applications:

- 1) Sin does not enhance a believer’s relationship with God, it hurts it.
- 2) Sin causes a person to hide from God.
- 3) Sin causes a person to cover the sin and blame others for it.

CONSEQUENCE #3 -Disobedience to God’s word brings judgment. **3:14-19**

Punishment #1 - The punishment of the serpent. **3:14**

The concept of God’s curse is one of Him pronouncing a penalty punishment because something detestable has been done. As far as we know, the serpent was not morally responsible for the sin, but it was still punished by having to physically crawl on the ground below other animals. This judgment will even continue during the millennium - Isaiah 65:25.

Punishment #2 - The punishment of Satan. **3:15**

The **15th verse** of Genesis 3 is referred to as the protevangelium, the first verse in the Bible that presents the gospel.

In this verse it is pronounced that there will always be hostility between the woman and her seed, and Satan and his seed.

That seed refers to God's elect, which includes Israel and the Church and the Son of God. In other words, the judgment of Satan is that he and his allies would forever be at odds against God and His allies. There will always be a hostility barrier between them.

The last half of **verse 15** says that Satan would be allowed to bruise the heel of the Son of God, but it would be the Son of God who would crush the head of Satan. It would be the wounding of the Son of God that would deal the crushing blow to Satan, for it is the cross of Christ that delivers people from their sin and from Satan's power.